

A Sister City

Performance Task

Introduction

Your city has many things that make it special. Your city has probably grown and changed over the years. The land, the people, and culture are unique to your city. In this task, you are going to choose another city in the world to learn about. This "sister city" will have many similarities to your city, but there will also be many different things about this city. It is important to study and learn about different places, people, and locations around the world.

Big Idea / Essential Questions

Big Idea

- People acting individually and/or as groups influence the environment.
- Places and regions have physical and human characteristics, and one's culture and experiences may influence perception of place.

Essential Questions

- How do human actions affect water, land, and air?
- How does land affect the development of society?

G.R.A.S.P.

Goal

Your goal is to choose a city that will be a good match to become the sister city of your city.

Role

You are a member of the City Council and have been asked to help find a "sister city" for your city.

Audience

The audience will be the people who live in your community. They will be excited about the "sister city" project and will want to know more about the chosen location.

Situation

Your city has many things that make it special. Your city has grown and changed over the years. It is possible that mountains, valleys, lakes, rivers, and creeks have helped to

form what your city is today. People and cultures have also played a part in the changes. Your task is to find a sister city somewhere else in the world. You will learn many things about your sister city as you form a relationship with them. You will want to share the similarities and differences of the sister city using the facts that you have learned about this city.

Products

1. Illustration

suggested starting product:

Illustrate a picture of the city/town where you live. Be sure to label it and give it a title.

- What city do you live in?
- How would you describe your city?
- What do you like about your city?
- How is your city unique?

Illustration - A Sister City

Achievement Levels	1	2	3
Illustration (x1)	Illustration and title are unclear and are not connected to the concept.	Illustration and title are somewhat clear and demonstrate minimal connection to the concept.	Illustration and title are clear and demonstrate some connection to the concept.

2. Picture

You are going to draw a picture of a person wearing very large mirror sunglasses. In these large mirror sunglasses, you will be drawing a picture of your sister city. This picture will represent what it might look like if you were looking at this city and location.

- Where is the sister city you chose?
- What is the weather like there?
- What does it look like?
- What are some unique or interesting characteristics of this location?

A Sister City - Picture

Achievement Levels	1	2	3
Geographic Locations (x1)	Student and/or product does not include any examples of characteristics unique to a geographic location or city.	Student and/or product includes some examples of characteristics unique to a geographic location or city.	Student and/or product includes examples of characteristics unique to a geographic location or city.
People and Places (x1)	Student demonstrates minimal understanding that by studying different geographic locations we learn about other people, places and environments.	Student demonstrates some understanding that by studying different geographic locations we learn about other people, places and environments.	Student demonstrates understanding that by studying different geographic locations we learn about other people, places and environments.
Picture (x1)	Drawing is not colorful and does not include details about the location.	Drawing is somewhat colorful and may include details that highlight features of the location.	Drawing is colorful and includes details that highlight features of the location.

3. Map

You are going to create two maps; one map that shows the city where you live and one map of the sister city. Make sure to highlight any similarities and/or differences between the two cities. Be sure to include a key and label all important parts of your map. (Streams, rivers, mountains, important public places, and buildings, etc.) Each of your maps should also have a title and a compass rose to show direction.

- How are your locations different from each other?
- What are the similarities between the locations?
- What are the important elements on the map of your city?
- What are the important elements on the map of the sister city?

A Sister City - Map

Achievement Levels	1	2	3
Map Elements (x1)	Maps contain few necessary parts: title, labels, Compass Rose, and map key. Few parts are neat and properly placed on map.	Maps contain some necessary parts: title, labels, Compass Rose, and map key. Some parts are neat and properly placed on map.	Maps contain most necessary parts: title, labels, Compass Rose, and map key. Most parts are neat and properly placed on map.
Content (x1)	Product has two or fewer similarities/differences between the two cities.	Product has three similarities/differences between the two cities.	Product has four similarities/differences between the two cities.
Geographical Overview (x1)	Final product does not show an understanding of location, directions, distance, and scale.	Final product shows limited understanding of location, directions, distance, and scale.	Final product mostly shows understanding of location, directions, distance, and scale.
Geographic Locations (x1)	Student and/or product does not include any examples of characteristics unique to a geographic location or city.	Student and/or product includes some examples of characteristics unique to a geographic location or city.	Student and/or product includes examples of characteristics unique to a geographic location or city.

4. Newscast

You are going to create and give a 1-2 minute newscast that explains the relationship, and the similarities or differences between your city and your sister city. This newscast will help your audience understand the sister city program and will provide detailed information that is unique to each of the cities.

- How does a sister city program benefit a city?
- What are the similarities between your city and your sister city?
- What are the differences between your city and your sister city?
- What is interesting or unique about the two cities?

A Sister City - Newscast

Achievement Levels	1	2	3
Presentation (x1)	Does not hold attention of the audience with the use of direct eye contact and variation of voice.	Minimally holds attention of the audience with the use of direct eye contact and variation of voice.	Is fairly consistent at holding attention of the audience with the use of direct eye contact and variation of voice.
Content	The newscast is poorly presented with	The newscast is presented in a mostly logical sequence and with minimal	The newscast is presented in a logical sequence and contains some accurate

Achievement Levels	1 minimal accurate information.	2 accurate supporting information including facts and completed products.	3 supporting information including facts and completed products.
Similarities and Differences between Locations (x1)	Student provides only one example of a similarity and/or difference between their city and the sister city.	Student provides few examples of similarities and/or differences between their city and the sister city.	Student provides examples of similarities and/or differences between their city and the sister city.
Geographic Locations (x1)	Student and/or product includes one example of a characteristic unique to a geographic location or city.	Student and/or product includes some examples of characteristics unique to a geographic location or city.	Student and/or product includes examples of characteristics unique to a geographic location or city.
People and Places (x1)	Student demonstrates very minimal understanding that by studying different geographic locations we learn about other people, places and environments.	Student demonstrates some understanding that by studying different geographic locations we learn about other people, places and environments.	Student demonstrates understanding that by studying different geographic locations we learn about other people, places and environments.

5. Letter

Write a letter to a student in your sister city. Tell them all about your city and what you like about where you live. Be sure to describe the weather, the land features, and the things that you enjoy about living in your city.

- What will you write about the city where you live?
- What do you like about the city where you live?
- Why do you think people should the city where you live?
- What do you enjoy doing in the city where you live?

Letter - A Sister City

Achievement Levels	1	2	3
Organization and Form (x1)	Most elements of a friendly letter are not included: greeting, body, closing, and signature or correctly placed.	Some elements of a friendly letter are included: greeting, body, closing, and signature and correctly placed.	Most elements of a friendly letter are included: greeting, body, closing, and signature and correctly placed.
Conventions (x1)	Shows little evidence of understanding correct grammar, spelling, capitalization, and punctuation.	Has many errors in grammar, spelling, capitalization, and punctuation, and somewhat affects understanding.	Some errors in grammar, spelling, capitalization, and punctuation, but the errors do not affect understanding.
People and Places (x1)	Student demonstrates minimal understanding that by studying different geographic locations we learn about other people, places and environments.	Student demonstrates some understanding that by studying different geographic locations we learn about other people, places and environments.	Student demonstrates understanding that by studying different geographic locations we learn about other people, places and environments.
Human-Environment Interaction (x1)	Student is able to provide one example of weather, climate and other environmental characteristics in their region.	Student is able to provide few examples of weather, climate and other environmental characteristics in their region.	Student is able to provide examples of weather, climate and other environmental characteristics in their region.
Locations and Places (x1)	Student and/or product includes very few examples of characteristics or activities unique to where the student lives.	Student and/or product includes some examples of characteristics or activities unique to where the student lives.	Student and/or product includes examples of characteristics or activities unique to where the student lives.

6. Virtual Field Trip

Create a PowerPoint presentation of your sister city. This presentation should include

pictures of food, streets, historic sites, people, and interesting places and events in the city. Include with each picture a short caption explaining the picture.

- What is the location of your sister city?
- What are some unique characteristics of your sister city?
- What do you think people should know about your sister city?

A Sister City - Virtual Field Trip

Achievement Levels	1	2	3
Content and Organization (x1)	Presentation contains pictures of less than two categories: food, streets, historic sites, people, and interesting places and events in the city.	Presentation contains pictures of two/three categories: food, streets, historic sites, people, and interesting places and events in the city.	Presentation contains pictures of four/five categories: food, streets, historic sites, people, and interesting places and events in the city.
Creativity (x1)	Product is unoriginal in design and does not use graphics.	Product is somewhat original in design and uses graphics to help the audience understand information.	Product is original in design and uses graphics to help the audience understand the information.
People and Places (x1)	Student demonstrates very minimal understanding that by studying different geographic locations we learn about other people, places and environments.	Student demonstrates some understanding that by studying different geographic locations we learn about other people, places and environments.	Student demonstrates understanding that by studying different geographic locations we learn about other people, places and environments.
Geographic Locations (x1)	Student and/or product includes only one example of a characteristic unique to a geographic location or city.	Student and/or product includes some examples of characteristics unique to a geographic location or city.	Student and/or product includes examples of characteristics unique to a geographic location or city.
Labels and Captions (x1)	Presentation only includes one caption and/or label.	Presentation includes some captions and/or labels for featured pictures and information.	Presentation includes captions and/or labels for featured pictures and information.

7. Journal Prompt

Suggested final product:

Tell me what you learned about the similarities and differences between the Sister City and the city/place you live in.

- What did you learn about your sister city?
- What did you learn *from* your sister city?
- What do you think your sister city would like about the city where you live?
- Why do you want to visit your sister city?

Journal Prompt - A Sister City

Achievement Levels	1	2	3
Conventions (if response is written) (x1)	Few sight words are spelled correctly and lacks phonetic construction of unknown words. No capitalization or punctuation used.	A majority of sight words are spelled correctly. Demonstrates an attempt at phonetic construction of unknown words. Minimal capitalization and/or punctuation are used.	All sight words are spelled correctly. Demonstrates success in phonetic construction of unknown words. Some capitalization and/or punctuation.
Content (x1)	Response contains a limited amount of accurate, factual information.	Response contains some accurate, factual information about the topic.	Response contains mostly accurate, factual information about the topic.

Achievement

	1	2	3
Similarities and Differences between Locations (x1)	Student is minimally aware of and does not provide any differences and/or similarities between different geographic locations.	Student is somewhat aware of and provides few examples of differences and/or similarities between different geographic locations.	Student is aware of and provides examples of differences and/or similarities between different geographic locations.
People and Places (x1)	Student demonstrates minimal understanding that by studying different geographic locations we learn about other people,places and environments.	Student demonstrates some understanding that by studying different geographic locations we learn about other people,places and environments.	Student demonstrates understanding that by studying different geographic locations we learn about other people,places and environments.